



**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**Record Attendance and Sales at Third Annual *Easels in Frederick* Event**

Record attendance and art sales distinguished 2013 *Easels in Frederick*, the celebration of plein air painting that took place in Frederick County from June 18-23, in partnership with the Frederick Arts Council (FAC). A total of 28 juried artists traveled from 17 states to capture local scenes on canvas, competing for cash prizes of \$14,000 and the opportunity to sell their work.

During four days of intense painting in locations throughout Frederick County, the juried artists produced 107 paintings. The artwork was displayed, judged and sold to the public at the Grand Exhibition, featured June 21-22 at the Wm. Talley Recreation Center in Frederick, attended by more than 1,200 people. Award-winning Pittsburgh-based plein air artist Ron Donoughe served as the 2013 Exhibition and Quick Draw judge.

More than 460 people attended the Friday evening ticketed Private Collectors Preview, where they had the opportunity to be among the first to see and purchase the completed artwork. Over the course of the two-day exhibit, a record 46 paintings were sold.

The Private Collectors Preview culminated in Donoghue's announcement of the award winners. Russell Jewell of Easley, SC, was named the \$5,000 grand prize winner for his painting "After the Rain." Jewell has competed in *Easels in Frederick* every year since its inaugural event in 2011.

"Rest for the Weary" by Tim Kelly of Baltimore, MD, received the second place award and a \$2,500 cash prize, which was sponsored by Everedy Square & Shab Row. "Chapel Alley," a nocturne by Jason Sacran, Lavaca, AR, received the third place award and cash prize of \$1,000 sponsored by Frederick County Bank.

"Friday Night in Frederick" by Kenneth DeWaard of Viroque, WI, was the recipient of the Best Painting with Architectural Subject / Frederick City award and \$1,000 cash prize, sponsored by

Proffitt & Associates Architects. “Morning Fog Lifting,” by Lynn Mehta of Alexandria, VA, received the Best Rural Landscape / Town award with a prize of \$1,000, sponsored by Bach & Associates REALTORS. “Frederick Sunset” by Jason Sacran of Lavaca, AR, was the recipient of the Best Use of Light award and \$1,000 cash prize, sponsored by Yvonne and Jim Reinsch.

Ticketholders at the Friday evening Private Collectors Preview Party cast their ballots for the \$1,500 Collectors Choice Award, sponsored by PNC Bank, which was shared by Russell Jewell for “After The Rain,” and Michael Kotarba of Baltimore, MD, for “Tranquility.” At Saturday’s re-opening of the exhibition, Mary Pettis of Taylors Falls, MI, won the \$1,000 People’s Choice Award, sponsored by Woodsboro Bank, for “Umbrellas and Puddles.” The 2013 award-winning paintings can be viewed at: [www.easelsinfrederick.org](http://www.easelsinfrederick.org).

Saturday morning’s two-hour Quick Draw contest attracted 93 local, regional and national juried and non-juried artists who painted against the clock on six blocks of downtown Frederick, competing for \$1,500 in cash prizes. Following the intense session, artists took their work to Memorial Park in downtown Frederick, where Donoughe judged and announced the winners. Richard Sneary of Kansas City, MO, was named winner in the Best Painting by a Juried Artist category and recipient of a \$500 cash prize, sponsored by Hunt Hendrickson & Matt McGreevey–Smith Barney. “Acacia” by Paul Tooley of Frederick was named winner in the Best Painting by a Non-Juried Artist category and recipient of a \$500 cash prize sponsored by Frederick Town Realty. Other non-juried winners were: William Lewis of Gettysburg, second place, \$300, sponsored by Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.; and Netasha Johnson of Frederick, third place, \$200 sponsored by Carol and Jack Topchik and Caron and John Thornton. Honorable mentions, sponsored by Angles Professional Full Service Framing and McGuire Fine Arts, went to Deborah Richardson of Frederick and Joe Palmerio of Sarasota, FL. Many of the Quick Draw artists sold their paintings to spectators who had come to watch them at work.

*Easels in Frederick* was made possible in part through the generosity of local corporate and private sponsors and was produced in partnership with the FAC, a 501(c)(3) organization, making contributions and ticket purchases tax deductible within the limit of the law. Partial proceeds from art sales benefit FAC programs. Other supporting partners include: The City of Frederick, Downtown Frederick Partnership, Frederick County Public Libraries and the Tourism Council of Frederick County. For more information about the event, visit the event website at: [easelsinfrederick.org](http://easelsinfrederick.org).

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